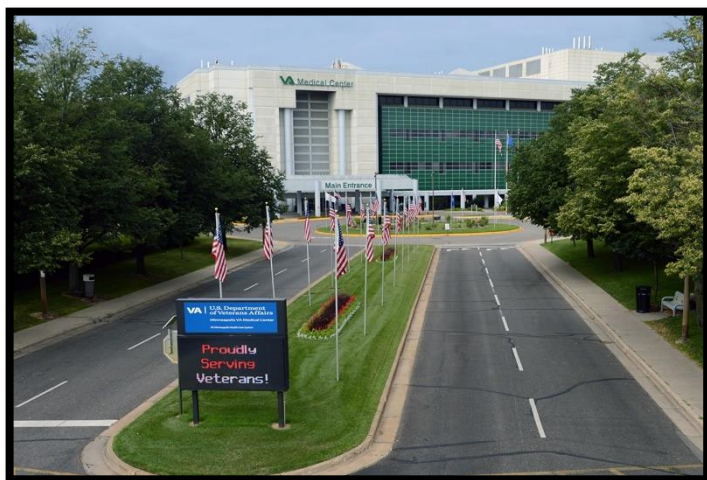


Minneapolis VA Health Care System (MVAHCS) PGY-2 Psychiatric Pharmacy Residency 2022-23:

This post-graduate year two (PGY-2) psychiatric pharmacy residency program at the MVAHCS (also known as the “Minneapolis VA”) is one of the first accredited through ASHP. This program has been designed to develop practitioners with the high level of skill required to manage patient care as integral members of interdisciplinary teams. Graduates of this program have been successful in an assortment of clinical mental health positions.



VA



**U.S. Department
of Veterans Affairs**

ASHP-Accredited

PGY1 – Pharmacy Residency
PGY2 – Pain Management and Palliative Care
PGY2 – Psychiatric Pharmacy
PGY2 – Geriatric Pharmacy

The MVAHCS is one of the ten largest VA medical centers in the country, serving more than 100,000 veterans in a six-state area of the upper Midwest. The MVAHCS provides a full range of patient care services with state-of-the-art technology, educational resources, and research. More than 100 pharmacists play a vital role in the delivery of patient care; working as a team with physicians, nurses and other health care practitioners to ensure America’s veterans receive the finest care. Pharmacists routinely interact one-on-one with patients providing consultation and guidance on the use of medications through an independent scope of practice. VA pharmacists fully utilize their skills and knowledge in their daily practice.

The MVAHCS has three PGY-2 residents: one focused in Geriatrics, one focused in Psychiatry, and one focused in Pain Management and Palliative Care. In addition, there are four PGY-1 residents. The PGY-1 pharmacy residency program at this facility is one of the first accredited residency programs with almost 60 years of continuous accreditation by ASHP.

The Minneapolis VA is dedicated to providing comprehensive psychiatric care. Services span a variety of settings, including a locked inpatient psychiatric unit, partial hospitalization program, intensive outpatient programming, intensive case management services, programming for people experiencing homelessness, and general outpatient services (locally and across all of the community-based outpatient clinics). Additionally, outpatient specialty teams exist for Serious Mental Illness, Substance Use Disorders, Geriatric Psychiatry, Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD), Mood Disorders, and Gender Dysmorphic Disorder. All teams are interprofessional and include disciplines of nursing, pharmacy, psychiatry, psychology, occupation therapy, recreational therapy, and peer support.

The PGY-2 resident will be established as a member of the Serious Mental Illness Team. The resident will co-manage patients as part of an interdisciplinary team in a practice that has evolved over the years, allowing pharmacists to practice at the top of their license. In addition to completing patient appointments, residents write progress notes for patients they assess and (in collaboration with preceptors) have authority to write prescriptions, order laboratory and other diagnostic tests, consult other services when indicated, and develop therapeutic and monitoring plans for patient follow-up. Care is provided via face-to-face, telephone, and video appointments.

The main hospital has 348 beds and provides acute care services to psychiatry, spinal cord, neurology, surgery, cardiology, intensive care, and general internal medicine. There are also 104 beds in the Community Living Center (CLC). Residents spend 6 weeks in inpatient psychiatry completing a rotation that serves to acclimate the resident to inpatient psychiatry pharmacy services and serves as a foundation for future care rotations.

MVAHCS is affiliated with the University of Minnesota (UMN) College of Pharmacy and School of Medicine. Residents serve as preceptors to IPPE and APPE students throughout the year. Didactic teaching experiences through the University may be available in PGY-2 programs based on interest. Other opportunities to provide education to pharmacy, nursing, medicine, and/or other disciplines during the year may include but are not limited to in-service education, mental health grand rounds, journal club, and medication therapy cases.

Project/Research Requirements

The MVAHCS pharmacy residency programs use the inverted research model (IRM). During the first half of the year, residents are involved in data collection, data analysis, presentation, and manuscript submission as they finish this project. During the second half of the year, residents start a project to be finished the next residency year, performing the background research, developing the protocol, and obtaining IRB approval (if applicable). This allows residents to gain project management experience in two longitudinal projects during one residency year. Residents work with preceptors and the research team on these projects and present at an appropriate venue each year. A final manuscript is a requirement for completion of the residency. A medication use evaluation (MUE) is also required during the year.

Program Structure in 2022-23

Area	Duration
Orientation	6 weeks (1 block rotation)
Serious Mental Illness (SMI)	7 weeks (2 block rotations)
Addiction Recovery Services	5 weeks (1 block rotation)
Inpatient Psychiatry	6 weeks (1 block rotation)
Telepsychiatry	4 weeks (1 block rotation)
PTSD	4 weeks (1 block rotation)
Geriatric Psychiatry	4 weeks (1 block rotation)
Chief Resident	Longitudinal (12 months)
SMI Interprofessional Experience (IPE)	Longitudinal (1 day per week)
Leadership, Quality & Management	Longitudinal
Research & Project Management	Longitudinal (administrative)
Professional Service	Longitudinal (administrative)

Elective Learning Experiences

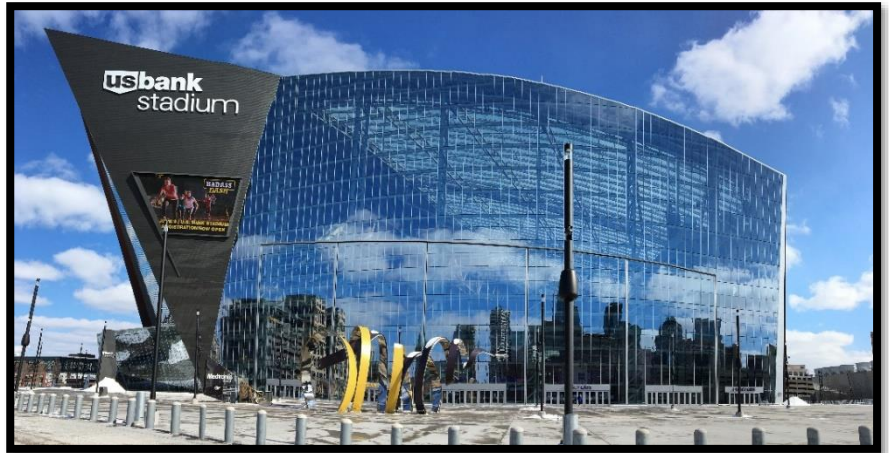
Area	Area
Academia	Inpatient Psychiatric Consult Liaison
Academic Detailing	Research
Pain Management	

*Other elective learning experiences may be developed based on the residents interests and preceptor availability

Twin Cities, MN



The Minneapolis-St. Paul metropolitan area has a combined population of over 2.4 million people. The Twin Cities are nationally recognized for their arts, most notable are the Guthrie Theater, Minnesota Orchestra, Minneapolis Institute of Art, Science Museum and the Walker Art Center. Not to mention the many art festivals throughout the year. The VA Medical Center is located very near to both the Mall of America and the airport. Recreational activities span the four seasons, and the state is home to seven professional sports teams: Twins, Vikings, Timberwolves, Lynx, Wild, Minnesota United FC, and St. Paul Saints. The Twin Cities are also known for music and food.



PGY-2 Psychiatric Pharmacy Practice Residency Application Procedure (ASHP Code: 63101; NMS Code General PGY1: 190813; NMS Code General PGY1 with MH Longitudinal Experience: 190821)

Applicants must be a graduate of an American Council of Pharmaceutical Education (ACPE) accredited School of Pharmacy with a Doctor of Pharmacy Degree (Pharm.D.). All residents will be required to be licensed; licensure may be obtained through any U.S. State Board of Pharmacy. U.S. citizenship is required. The applicant must complete an ASHP accredited PGY-1 residency. The applicant must be registered with the American Society of Health System Pharmacists' Match Program. The only exception would be for early commitment. An on-site interview is required for all applicants unless another mode is deemed necessary by the Resident Program Director in advance.

Application Requirements:

- Complete online application through PhORCAS
- All application materials must be submitted via PhORCAS by December 31st of 2022
- Academic transcripts including pharmacy school transcripts with a description of the grading scale if not on a 4-point system
- Curriculum Vitae
- Letter of Intent
- Reference Letters (3) utilizing PhORCAS standardized form (hint: don't submit over 3 as only the first 3 will be read)
- Sample of written work from PGY-1 residency

Some of the criteria considered in choosing residents include knowledge of professional practice, communication skills and ability to apply theory to practice, leadership ability, interest in the program, confidence, and professionalism.

See our website for additional information: <https://www.va.gov/minneapolis-health-care/work-with-us/internships-and-fellowships/pharmacy-student-and-residency-programs/>

PGY-2 Psychiatric Pharmacy Practice Residency General Information and Benefits

General Information:

- Duration: 12 months
- Number of Positions: 1
- Starting Date: July 3rd, 2023
- Model Type: Teaching, Tertiary
- Estimated Stipend: \$48,617

Benefits:

- Competitive stipend
- 4 hours annual leave and 4 hours sick leave per pay period (2 weeks)
- 11 paid holidays per year
- Eligible for federal employee health and life insurance
- Dedicated resident office space
- Free parking

Pharmacy Residents



PGY-1 and PGY-2 residents from left to right: Jesse Upton, Christy Varghese, Hailee Griffin, Siri Roberts, Rebecca 'Becky' Thelen, Leyla Rashid, Sabrina Sturm, and Alyssa Isola



PGY-2 residents from left to right: Christy Varghese, Jesse Upton, and Hailee Griffin

PGY-1 Residents	PGY-2 Residents
Alyssa Isola Email: Alyssa.Isola@va.gov	Hailee Griffin (Geriatrics) Email: Hailee.Griffin@va.gov
Leyla Rashid Email: Leyla.Rashid@va.gov	Jesse Upton (Psychiatry) Email: Jesse.Upton@va.gov
Siri Roberts Email: Siri.Roberts@va.gov	Christy Varghese (Pain Mgmt & Palliative Care) Email: Christy.Varghese@va.gov
Rebecca 'Becky' Thelen Email: Rebecca.Thelen@va.gov	
Sabrina Sturm Email: Sabrina.Sturm1@va.gov	

Program Director



Kara Wong, PharmD, BCPP
Clinical Pharmacist
Practitioner
Pronouns: She/Her/Hers
Minneapolis VA Health
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1 Veterans Drive
Minneapolis, MN 55417
Phone: 612-467-2040
Email: Kara.Wong3@va.gov
(preferred)

Our Commitment to Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

At the Minneapolis Veterans Affairs Health Care System, we are committed to fostering and sustaining an environment which celebrates diversity, provides equitable opportunities for employment and promotion, and supports inclusiveness in pharmacy culture. We embrace our differences as individuals and unite as a pharmacy team toward a common goal: to deliver optimal, patient-centered care for our nation's Veterans



Congratulations 2021-22 Resident Graduates:

From left to right bottom row: Alyssa Isola (Graduating in November – off cycle), Taylor Gill (PGY-1 general), Julia Buteyn (PGY-2 geriatrics), and Amanda Mueller (PGY-2 pain management and palliative care)

From left to right top row: Annie Hertel (PGY-2 psychiatry), Jesse Upton (PGY-1 general with mental health longitudinal exp), and Hailee Griffin (PGY-1 general)



